**IN THE CLAIMS**:

Please cancel claims 10 and 11, and rewrite claims 9 and 14, as shown below in the detailed listing of all claims which were, or are, in the application:

Claims 1-8 (Cancelled)

9. (Currently amended) An apparatus comprising at least one planar surface wherein at least two compartments are located and defined by a partition, the compartments creating a space which makes it possible to displace ~~a liquid sample or to displace~~ at least two liquid samples independently of one another, the compartments comprising at least two different types of ~~groove~~ grooves:

- ~~a~~ deep ~~groove,~~ grooves capable of partitioning samples from one another, the depth and the width of the deep ~~groove~~ grooves in relation to the partition being such that capillary action of a sample is not enabled, and
- ~~a~~ shallow ~~groove,~~ grooves capable of receiving a sample, the depth of ~~the~~ shallow ~~groove~~ grooves in relation to the partition being such that capillary action is enabled, one shallow groove being adjacent to one deep groove

~~the two different types of grooves making it possible to direct sample movements by altering an orientation of the apparatus~~.

10. (Cancelled)

11. (Cancelled)

12. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 9, wherein at least one deep groove is adjacent to a shallow groove.

13. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 9, wherein a deep groove is positioned between two shallow grooves.

14. (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 13, wherein ~~one of the ends of the deep groove is free, and~~ the two shallow grooves meet at <u>one of the ends of the deep groove</u> ~~this free end~~ to create a reaction zone there, where ~~at least~~ <u>the</u> two liquid samples may be brought together.

15. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 14, wherein the distance between the reaction zone and the partition is such that capillary action is enabled.

16. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 14, wherein the distance between the reaction zone and the partition is such that capillary action is not enabled.